

COMMENTS

Claims 1-4 are all the claims in the case.

The Amendments

Claims 1-4 have been amended to improve readability. Claim 1 has also been amended to recite that the lighting clip is fixed on a portion of an edge of a panel. This amendment is supported in the specification at page 3, line 2 and in Figs. 1 and 3. Claim 1 has been further amended to recite that the clamping arms are linear. This amendment is supported by the appearance of the arms in Figs. 2, 4-7.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The examiner rejected claims 1 and 2 as anticipated by US Patent 6,979,115 to Ohizumi. This rejection is traversed.

The Ohizumi patent discloses a system for providing positionable light to a liquid crystal display. As shown in Figs. 1, 4, and 9, the light source is mounted along the entire edge of the panel such that the entire surface of the panel is evenly illuminated. The Ohizumi patent does not disclose or teach using a light clip to illuminate only a portion of the panel, as claimed in amended claims 1 and 2. Further, the Ohizumi patent teaches that the bracket used to hold the panel to the light source is pinched, see Fig. 3, 15a, and specification at col. 6, lines 40-45. In contrast, claims 1 and 2, as amended, recite linear clamping arms. There is no teaching or disclosure in the Ohizumi patent of a bracket having linear arms. See Figs. 5-9.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the Ohizumi patent does not anticipate claims 1 and 2 of the present application.

The examiner also rejected claims 1, 3, and 4 as anticipated by US Patent 6,309,081 to Furihata. This rejection is traversed.

The Furihata patent discloses a system to provide a backlight unit for electronic apparatus using a light guide plate and a gripper for positioning a light source against the whole edge of the plate. Figs. 1, 3, and 4. Furihata also teaches that the end portion of the gripper is flared outward. Col. 4, line 17 and Figs. 1 and 3. Accordingly, Furihata does not teach or suggest a light clip that illuminates only a portion of a plate, or one having linear clamping arms and thus, does not anticipate claims 1, 3, or 4 of the present application.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, applicant submits that the claims as amended present patentable subject matter. Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted

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